

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 8, 2005

Honorable Ted Stevens  
Chairman  
Committee on Commerce,  
Science and Transportation  
United States Senate  
Hart Building, Room 522  
Washington, DC 20510-6125

Honorable Pete Domenici  
Chairman  
Committee on Energy  
and Natural Resources  
United States Senate  
Dirksen Building, Room 364  
Washington, DC 20510-6125

Dear Chairmen Stevens and Domenici:

Thank you for convening tomorrow's joint hearing on energy prices and supply. As members of the Senate Energy and Commerce Committees, we write to request that the witnesses at tomorrow's hearing—specifically, the CEOs of the five major oil companies expected to attend—be sworn in, to offer testimony under oath.

We are aware that Majority Leader Frist called for this hearing as part of the effort "to investigate high energy prices." Many of us have previously called for similar investigations and believe such an effort is long over-due, given factors such as the oil companies' record profits, complaints from across the nation about potential price gouging in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and other long-standing controversies about the pricing policies and business practices of these corporations.

In order for the Senate to play its proper oversight role, we believe it would be most appropriate for these witnesses to be administered the oath. Not only will this give us and our constituents the utmost confidence in the testimony that is offered, it will also provide us a reasonable opportunity to request additional information to aid in this investigation.

If the American people are to find this inquiry credible, it is essential that the oil executives testify under oath. Anything less would undermine the integrity of this Congress and these committees. Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,



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Jay Rockwell

Frank R. Lautenberg

RW

Robert Byrd

Byron D. Dorgan

John D. Dingell

Max Baucus